

November 2008  
Good Shepherd of Angers  
France

## NEWS AT THE MOTHERHOUSE

### Contemplative Missionaries to Angola:



After all the participants to the Europe-RIMOA ICA, including the Congregational Leadership Team had left the Motherhouse, the Spirituality Center had its turn to share in the preparation of the Contemplatives missioned to Angola on the first day of November. They started their day with the team headed by Sr. Marie-Hélène showing them the Spirituality Center and some of its treasures. They were particularly touched when they were shown the Vow Book that St. Mary Euphrasia had signed regularly each time she renewed her Vows on the 21<sup>st</sup> of November. It was a memorable time for them to finger her signature, handle carefully the huge

book and press it to their hearts. What a memory to carry in their hearts, mind and spirit.



In the afternoon, Sr. Mary Tarcila guided them through "Espace Pelletier" then to the tomb and the Oratory. Indeed we are privileged to share in preparing them for their mission and to give them a strong bond to the Mother House and all the places that had been held sacred by St. Mary Euphrasia herself. May they be fruitful in their new mission in terms of souls they will draw closer to the Heart of Jesus and Mary and the sheep led to the Good Shepherd Himself.



### Lay Collaborators from Germany:



Around the same time, there was a group of 40 lay collaborators from Germany who came for a full week stay, from November 1-9. They were most dedicated in following the series of input, reflection and sharing on the life and spirit of St. Mary Euphrasia. The organizing team was headed by Sr. Kristofora, Sr. Ingrid and Sr. Cordis. The Sunday Mass of November 2 in commemoration of our Beloved Dead was animated by the group with many parts of the Mass sang in German. It felt like a prolongation of our ICA liturgies.

It was so refreshing to have them around the house and seeing them so prepared in all their activities. Notice the seats they brought with them when they had their sessions outside in the garden. They had a candle-lit supper along the corridor in front of the Chapel. They also had art session with Michel Chauviere and the exhibit of what they had produced after a few hours of coaching shows the autumn leaves all too real. Below are some pictures taken of these activities.



## Netherlands presence:

Sisters Norbertine and Gudula from Blomendaal, Netherland stayed with us for about a week, from November 2-8. They spent time to revisit many of the hallowed places in and around the Motherhouse. They brought many articles for the Sharing Fair Sale at the Motherhouse.



## We have new neighbors ...



Goodbye to the Abbey of St. Nicholas was marked with a Mass last November 10. That being a Monday, almost all of the Mother House International Community was there. It was a sober and somber atmosphere but it was edifying to see the Sisters so brave and cheerful in moving on to their new residence, **Maison du Marie-Euphrasie**, yes that is the name of the renovated building of the Contemplatives. The community is composed of Sisters from St. Nicholas, Nazareth, Cholet and from the Motherhouse. The renovations and construction work are far from completed but there is

no better way of checking how everything will work out unless there are people in residence. The moving in was done in several stages and the final list of residents was completed on November 12. Here are some pictures of the new house.



## Sharing Fair:



This annual event at the Motherhouse was held on the weekend of November 14-15. It is the first time for Sr. Elizabeth de Givenchy to coordinate this activity since she replaced Sr. Michelle Camus in this responsibility. She continued to have the support of the lay volunteers. This year they had a raffle with beautiful prizes at stake. Each time a purchase was made of at least 5 Euros, the purchaser gained a raffle ticket. The draw was done at the close of the sale Sunday late in the afternoon.

